GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4494
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007
INVOLVEMENT OF TEACHERS IN MID DAY MEAL SCHEME
Pathak Shri Brajesh;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of mid-day mea< scheme is being attended by school teachers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the studies of the children are getting adversely affected as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether additional staff is being appointed for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) to (e): No, Sir. The overall responsibility for implementing the mid day meal programme lies with the Slate Governments and Union Territory Administrations. MDM Scheme Guidelines stipulates that as far as possible, responsibility for cooking/supply of cooked mid day meal should be assigned to one of the following:

Local Women`s/Mothers` Self Help Group.

Local Youth Club affiliated to the Nehru Yuvak Kendras.

A voluntary organization fulfilling requirements as specified in the Guidelines.

By personnel engaged directly by the VEC/SMDC/PTA/Gram Panchay at/Municipalities.

The MDM Guidelines further reiterates that the teachers should under no circumstances be assigned responsibilities that would impede or interfere with teaching learning. Teachers should, however, be involved in ensuring that
(i) good quality, wholesome food is served to children, and (ii) the actual serving and eating is undertaken in the spirit of togetherness, under hygienic conditions and in an orderly manner. States are also advised to engage Self Help Groups in the management of the programme, thus ensuring that teaching-learning processes in the classrooms are not affected.